

## Message Text

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53

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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P 301645Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5820

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 4964

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SP, SW

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM PRIME MINISTER PALME ON SPANISH EXECUTIONS

1. WHILE CALLING ON FOREIGN MINISTER ANDERSSON TO DISCUSS KOREAN ISSUE AT UNGA (SEPT-EL), ANDERSSON TOLD ME THAT PRIME MINISTER PALME HAD ASKED HIM TO CONVEY AN ORAL MESSAGE TO ME REGARDING THE SPANISH SITUATION WHICH HE WISHED ME TO CONVEY TO WASHINGTON. MESSAGE IS AS FOLLOWS:

2. PALME BELIEVES THAT ASIDE FROM POPULAR EMOTIONAL REACTION THROUGHOUT EUROPE TO EXECUTION OF SPANISH TERRORISTS, THE VAST BULK OF MODERATE EUROPEAN PUBLIC OPINION HAS BEEN DEEPLY SHOCKED AT THE SUMMARY CHARACTER OF JUSTICE EVIDENT IN THE HASTY TRIALS OF THE ACCUSED. AS PALME SEES IT, THE JUDICIAL PROCEEDINGS WERE HEAVILY WEIGHTED ON THE SIDE OF THE PROSECUTION, AND THE COUNSEL FOR THE DEFENSE DID NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT TIME TO PREPARE ITS CASE.

3. THEREFORE, PALME HOPES THE USG COULD FIND A WAY TO MAKE PUBLIC STATEMENT ON NECESSITY OF DUE PROCESS, TO WHICH UNITED STATES, MORE THAN ANY OTHER COUNTRY, IS COMMITTED. PALME BELIEVES THAT SUCH A STATEMENT, HOWEVER LOW KEY, WOULD BE EXTREMELY WELL RECEIVED BY EUROPEAN PUBLIC OPINION AND MIGHT CONCEIVABLY HAVE SOME MODERATING EFFECT ON THE SPANISH AUTHORITIES.

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4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH I AM FAR FROM CLAIMING EXPERTISE ON

MATTERS SPANISH, IN LIGHT OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN SPAIN,  
THE ENSUING EUROPEAN REACTION, AND POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS  
IN SPAIN, I BELIEVE THE SUGGESTION MERITS CONSIDERATION.  
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** SPEECHES, EXECUTIONS, TERRORISTS  
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**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, SP, SW, (PALME)  
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